

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the third paragraph beginning on page 6 with the following amended paragraph:

"As seen in the Figures, the rod 58 is preferably adjustable in length. The rod 58 can be formed of a lower tube 70 with an upper rod 72 telescoped therein. A ~~ferrule~~ ferrule nut 74 with one or more compression washers can secure the upper rod 72 at the desired position relative to lower tube 70. The adjustability of the length of rod 58 allows the wheelchair footrest retractor 10 to be adjusted as needed to fit a particular wheelchair 14. Also, the adjustability of the length of rod 58 allows for the length adjustment of the footrests 16 and 18 necessary to provide adjustment for tall and short wheelchair users. Alternatively, the nut 74 and compression washers can be replaced by a series of aligned holes 100 formed in the lower tube 70, as seen in Figure 1. A similar hole(not shown) is formed in the upper rod 72. The hole in the rod 72 is aligned with one of the series of aligned holes 100 in the lower tube 70 corresponding to the desired length of the rod 58 and a pin 102 is then inserted through the aligned holes to fix the length of the rod 58. Pin 102 can be a simple cotter pin, a pin with a snap spring to fit around the tube 70 to hold the pin in place, a bolt, or any other suitable design."

Please replace the Abstract on page 12 with the following amended paragraph:

"A wheelchair footrest retractor (10) is disclosed for use with a footrest (16, 18) in a wheelchair (14) to allow the wheelchair user or caregiver to readily manipulate the footplates (20) between an upper retracted position and a lower use position by simply manipulating a handle(56) located to the side of the knee of the wheelchair user. The wheelchair footrest retractor (10) can be mounted to the wheelchair with little or no modification of the wheelchair. The rod (58) in the wheelchair footrest retractor (10) can be adjusted in length to fit a particular wheelchair and also ~~adjust~~ adjusted when the length of the footrest(16, 18) is adjusted."